

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BUCAR 01282 281004Z  
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W  
-----281005 070737 /20

P 280856Z FEB 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1780

S E C R E T BUCHAREST 1282

EXDIS

OES FOR GANLEY

EUR/EE FOR SCHMIDT

EXIM FOR ALBRIGHT

E.O. 11652: XGDS 2 AND 3  
TAGS: TSPA, ACOM, PFOR, RO  
SUBJECT: VIP TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

REF: (A) STATE 037032; (B) STATE 020559; (C) 76 BUCHAREST 7006;  
(D) 76 BUCHAREST 5177; (E) 76 BUCHAREST 4245; (F) 76  
BUCHAREST 4051

1. WE RAISED QUESTION OF FINANCING OF VIP AIRCRAFT WITH  
HARABAGIU/ZGAVARDICI FEBRUARY 25 EXPLAINING THAT DISCUSSIONS SHOULD  
TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO CONCLUSION OF CONTRACT AND REITERATING EXCLUSION  
OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS PACKAGE FROM FINANCING. HARABAGIU  
ANSWERED OUR QUERY CONCERNING POSSIBLE VISIT OF ROMANIAN  
FOREIGN TRADE BANK (RBFT) TEAM TO WASHINGTON WITH OBSERVATION  
THAT HE UNDERSTOOD EXIM TEAM COMING TO BUCHAREST. WE CON-  
FIRMED THAT ALBRIGHT WAS INDEED PREPARED TO DISCUSS FINANCING  
OF AIRCRAFT AND TO EXAMINE QUESTION OF FINANCING OF PORTION  
OF INTERIOR CONFIGURATION. HARABAGIU FIRST SUGGESTED THAT  
THIS DISCUSSION COULD BE FOLDED INTO CALL ON MFT

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BUT LATER, AFTER OUR MENTION OF FACT THAT VOLOSENIUC  
OF RBFT WAS ARRANGING PROGRAM, INDICATED THAT IT  
MIGHT ALSO BE APPROPRIATE TO HAVE VOLOSENIUC ADDRESS  
QUESTION.

2. FROM OUR DISCUSSION OF SUBSTANCE OF NEGOTIATIONS WE  
GATHER THAT NOISE ABATEMENT HAS AGAIN EMERGED AS

SERIOUS, IF NOT CONTROLLING, FACTOR IN ROMANIAN CONSIDERATION. HARABAGIU EXPRESSED UNQUALIFIED SATISFACTION WITH BIDS RECEIVED FROM EACH OF THREE FIRMS, LAUDING ALL COMPANIES AS HAVING PRODUCED PROPOSALS BEYOND CONSIDERABLE ROMANIAN EXPECTATIONS. PROPOSALS WERE NOW BEING EVALUATED BUT TEHNO FELT RELUCTANT OR UNWILLING TO PUT FORWARD FINAL RECOMMENDATION TO PRESIDENT WITH DOT NOISE ABATEMENT REGULATIONS THREATENING TO CURTAIL NUMBER OF AIRPORTS AT WHICH PLANE COULD LAND. WE SHARED WITH HARABAGIU OUR IGNORANCE OF DOT DECISION REGARDING APPLICABILITY OF DOT NOISE REGULATIONS TO STATE AIRCRAFT, PASSING ALONG BOEING VIEW THAT STATE AIRCRAFT EXCLUDED FROM PURVIEW OF REGULATION WHICH DEALS WITH "AIRCRAFT ENGAGED IN FOREIGN AIR COMMERCE." TEHNO OFFICIALS STATED AWARENESS OF BOEING VIEW BUT EXPRESSED DESIRE TO HAVE OFFICIAL CLARIFICATION. WE OFFERED TO MAKE YET ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO SECURE DEFINITIVE RESPONSE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED. WAY SEEMS CLEAR FOR ALBRIGHT TO HAVE DISCUSSION OF FINANCING OF AIRCRAFT AND POSSIBLY INTERIOR, WHETHER AT MFT OR RBFT. IN ANTICIPATION OF THAT DISCUSSION WE WISH TO REPEAT OUT THRICE-POSED QUESTION CONCERNING COVERAGE OF DOT NOISE ABATEMENT REGULATION. WE ASK THAT GANLEY OR SCHMIDT APPROACH DOT DIRECTLY OR THROUGH EB/TT/OA, WHICH HAS THUS FAR BEEN UNABLE TO SECURE CLARIFICATION. OUR HOPE IS THAT WITH NEW LEADERSHIP NOW INSTALLED IN DOT IT MIGHT PROVE POSSIBLE TO ELICIT SOMETHING BEYOND MERE REFERENCE TO AMBIGUOUS DRAFT REGULATION. WHAT  
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WE NEED IS UNEQUIVOCAL INDICATION WHETHER STATE AIRCRAFT NOT ENGAGED IN COMMERCIAL SERVICE ARE COVERED BY PROPOSED REGULATIONS OR, IF SIMPLE YES OR NO STILL IMPOSSIBLE AFTER PASSAGE OF ALMOST ONE YEAR, AT LEAST SOME SUGGESTION WHEN FINAL DECISION MIGHT BE REACHED.

BARNES

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**TAGS:** TSPA, ACOM, PFOR, RO, US  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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